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WATERFOWL HUNTING REGULATION FRAMEWORKS SLIGHTLY MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN
LAST SEASON

"Despite a small spring increase in the duck breeding population, rapidly deteriorating nesting conditions due to drought on the northern prairies are expected to reduce fall flights," Secretary Udall said.

"The regulations permit a generous bag limit and season, commensurate with the duck resource and the need to insure future breeding stocks."

The Atlantic and Mississippi flyway seasons were each reduced by five days to provide more protection for the mallard population. Canvasbacks in all flyways were given added safeguards through more conservative bag limits. Black ducks in the Atlantic flyway and wood ducks in the Mississippi and Central flyways also received additional protection.

The experimental black duck season in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts will continue on a reduced scale, and a special Federal permit and tagging system will be used to control the kill of Canada geese in Wisconsin.

A flyway-by-flyway description of the frameworks announced today by Secretary Udall follows:

ATLANTIC FLYWAY

(Conn., Del., Fla., Ga., Maine, Md., Mass., N.H., N.J., N.Y., N.C., Pa., R.I., S.C., Vt., Va., and W.Va.)

Between October 7, 1967, and January 7, 1968, States in this Flyway may select concurrent open seasons on ducks, coots, and gallinules (except for gallinules in Florida) of: (a) 50 consecutive days; or a split season totaling 45 days with basic limits on ducks of 3 daily and 6 in possession; OR (b) 40 consecutive days; or a split season totaling 36 days with basic limits on ducks of 4 daily and 8 in possession. The limits on coots are 10 daily and 20 in possession and on gallinules 15 daily and 30 in possession under either option and in Florida. In Florida the gallinule season is September 16-November 24.

The daily bag limit on ducks may not include more than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 2 black ducks. The possession limit on ducks may not include more than: (a) 4 wood ducks; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 4 black ducks.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which only 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

In Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire a daily limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 scaup ducks, in addition to other limits, is permitted during that portion of the regular open duck season that falls on or after November 15, 1967.

On a Statewide basis the States of Connecticut, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, and West Virginia; and in mutually agreed upon areas in the States of Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Virginia, these States may select either of the following:

- (1) From November 15, 1967, to the end of the regular duck season, a daily bag limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 scaup ducks, in addition to other limits; OR
- (2) Following the close of their regular duck season and between December 15, 1967, and January 7, 1968, a special open season on scaup ducks not to exceed 15 consecutive days. Daily shooting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset. The daily bag limit is 5 and the possession limit is 10 scaup ducks.

Under either option, mutual agreement between the Bureau and the State concerned on the delineation of restricted areas must be reached not later than August 22. The State concerned must agree to describe and delineate these areas in its hunting regulations.

That portion of the State of New York (Lake Champlain Area) lying east and north of the Delaware and Hudson Railroad tracks running south from the Canadian line to Whitehall and east to the New York-Vermont State line will take the waterfowl seasons, limits, and shooting hours selected by Vermont; the Long Island Area of New York will take the waterfowl seasons, limits, and shooting hours selected by either Connecticut or New Jersey.

An experimental open season for taking black ducks under authority of a special Federal permit may be selected covering 14 consecutive days between December 20, 1967, and January 7, 1968, in those lands and waters of the States of Maine, Massachusetts, and New Hampshire lying seaward from a line starting at Calais, Maine, and running southwesterly following U. S. Highway 1 to the junction with U. S. Highway 4 at Portsmouth, New Hampshire; thence northwesterly following U. S. Highway 4 to the intersection with State Highway 108; thence southerly following State Highway 108 to its junction with State Highway 101; thence easterly following State Highway 101 to its junction with U. S. Highway 1; thence southwesterly following U. S. Highway 1 to the junction with State Highway 3 at Boston, Massachusetts; thence southeasterly following State Highway 3 to the intersection with U. S. Highway 6; thence westerly following U. S. Highway 6 to its intersection with the Massachusetts-Rhode Island State line, subject to the following conditions: (a) the regular duck season selected for the State must end on or between December 19-December 24 and the special experimental season selected must begin on the next day following the close of the regular duck season; (b) every hunter must have been issued and carry on his person while hunting black ducks a properly validated 1967 special black duck hunting permit furnished by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife and issued without charge by the respective State game departments; and (c) the daily bag limit is 2 and the possession limit is 4 black ducks.

Between October 7, 1967, and January 14, 1968, States in this Flyway may select open seasons on geese (except snow geese) and brant of 70 days with a daily bag limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 geese, and a daily bag and possession limit of 6 brant: PROVIDED, That there shall be no open season for taking geese and brant in McIntosh and Liberty Counties of Georgia.

Shooting of crippled waterfowl from a motorboat under power will be permitted during regular and special seasons in those coastal waters and in rivers and streams lying seaward from the first upstream

bridge in the States of Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Connecticut; and in those coastal waters of New York State lying in Long Island and Block Island Sounds and the waters of Gardiner's Bay lying east of a line from the Long Beach Bay lighthouse to the most easterly point of Ram Head on Shelter Island to the Cedar point light; and including any coastal waters of New York lying south of Long Island.

MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY

(Ala., Ark., Ill., Ind., Iowa, Ky., La., Mich., Minn., Miss., Mo., Ohio, Tenn., and Wis.)

Between October 7, 1967, and January 7, 1968, States in this Flyway may select concurrent open seasons on ducks, coots, and gallinules (except for gallinules in Louisiana) of 40 consecutive days or a split season totaling 36 days with basic limits on ducks of 4 daily and 8 in possession. The daily bag limit on coots is 10 and the possession limit is 20 and on gallinules 15 daily and 30 in possession in all States. In Louisiana the gallinule season is November 4-January 12.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

The daily bag limit of ducks in all States except Alabama and Mississippi may not include more than: (a) 1 wood duck; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 2 mallards. The possession limit may not include more than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 4 mallards. In the States of Alabama and Mississippi the limit on wood ducks is 2 daily and 4 in possession; the limit on canvasbacks is 1 daily and in possession; and the limit on mallards is 2 daily and 4 in possession.

In that portion of the State of Louisiana as described in its hunting regulations as a special scaup area, a daily bag limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 scaup ducks are allowed in addition to the basic limits on ducks.

During that portion of the duck season falling on or after November 1, 1967, a daily bag limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 scaup ducks will be permitted in addition to the basic limits on ducks in the following areas:

- (1) The States of Minnesota and Wisconsin; and
- (2) In those mutually agreed upon areas in the States of Missouri and Ohio designated as special scaup areas in the hunting regulations adopted by these States.

During any portion of the duck season falling on or after November 1, 1967, in mutually agreed upon areas in Michigan designated as special scaup areas in hunting regulations adopted by Michigan, a daily bag limit of 2 and a possession limit of 4 scaup ducks, will be permitted in addition to the basic limits on ducks.

Between September 30, 1967, and January 14, 1968, States in this Flyway may select an open season on geese totaling 70 days with a daily bag and possession limit of 5: PROVIDED, That there shall be no open season for taking Canada geese in Issaquena, Sharkey, and Washington Counties of Mississippi; and there shall be no open season on Canada geese in the States of Arkansas and Louisiana.

In all States except Illinois and Missouri, the daily bag and possession limits may not include, in the alternative, more than: (a) 2 Canada geese; or (b) 2 white-fronted geese; or (c) 1 Canada goose and 1 white-fronted goose. In the States of Illinois and Missouri, the possession limit may not include in the alternative more than: (a) 2 white-fronted geese; or (b) 4 Canada geese; or (c) 4 Canada and white-fronted geese in the aggregate.

In the State of Illinois, the kill of Canada geese will be limited to a total of 20,000 birds.

In Missouri, the kill of Canada geese in the Swan Lake Area will be limited to 25,000 birds. Missouri may select separate open seasons of 70 days for each of the following 3 areas: (1) Swan Lake Area; (2) Squaw Creek Area (same descriptions as last year); and (3) the remainder of the State. Canada geese may be taken only during the first 30 days of the open season selected for the Squaw Creek Area. The daily bag limit in this area will be 1 Canada goose and the possession limit 2.

Geese taken in the States of Illinois and Missouri may not be transported, shipped, or delivered for transportation or shipment by common carrier, the postal service, or by any person except as the personal baggage of the hunter taking the birds.

When it has been determined by the Director that the quota of Canada geese allotted for the State of Illinois and Missouri Swan Lake Area will have been killed in these States respectively, the season for taking Canada geese therein will be closed by the Director upon giving public notice through local information media at least 48 hours in advance of the time and day of closing.

Canada goose hunting regulations for Wisconsin were earlier announced by the Interior Department. For specific information, hunters should contact the Wisconsin Conservation Department or a Federal Game Management Agent.

CENTRAL FLYWAY

(Kan., Neb., N.D., Okla., S.D., Texas, east of the Continental Divide in Colo., N.M., and Wyo., and designated Counties in Mont.)

Between October 7, 1967, and January 7, 1968, States in this Flyway may select concurrent open seasons on ducks, coots, and gallinules (except for gallinules in Texas) of: (a) 60 consecutive days or a split season totaling 54 days with basic limits on ducks of 3 daily and 6 in possession; OR (b) 50 consecutive days or a split season totaling 45 days with basic limits on ducks of 4 daily and 8 in possession. In Texas the gallinule season is September 1-November 9. The limits on coots are 10 daily and 20 in possession and on gallinules are 15 daily and 30 in possession under either option and in Texas.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

The daily bag limit of ducks may not include more than: (a) 1 wood duck; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 2 mallards. The possession limit may not include more than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 1 canvasback; and (c) 4 mallards.

Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming may select open seasons on waterfowl, coots, and gallinules in accordance with the frameworks for the Pacific Flyway as follows: (a) those portions of the States of Colorado and Wyoming lying west of the Continental Divide; (b) that portion of New Mexico lying west of the Continental Divide plus the entire area of the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation; and (c) the Montana counties of Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher, and Park and all Counties west thereof.

In the Colorado Counties of Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, and Rio Grande, and those portions of Saguache, Hinsdale, and Mineral Counties lying east of the Continental Divide, an experimental open season on ducks and coots under a special permit is prescribed from October 1 through October 18, 1967, with daily bag limit of 6 ducks and coots in the aggregate of both, of which at least 4 must be drake mallards and the possession limit is 12 ducks and coots in the aggregate of both, of which at least 8 must be drake mallards. Daily shooting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise until 12 o'clock noon standard time.

Between September 30, 1967, and January 14, 1968, States in this Flyway may select an open season on geese totaling 75 days with a daily bag and possession limit of 5.

In the States of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, Nebraska, and Kansas, and in that portion of South Dakota lying west of U. S. Highway 281 and south of U. S. Highway 14; that portion of Texas lying west of U. S. Highway 83; and all of Oklahoma except Alfalfa, Bryan and Marshall counties, the daily bag and possession limit may not include more of the following species than: (a) 1 Ross's goose and (b) in the alternative, 1 white-fronted goose; or 1 white-fronted goose and 1 Canada goose; or 2 Canada geese.

In that portion of North Dakota lying west of State Highway 3 the daily bag limit may not include more than 1 Ross's goose and in the alternative more than: (1) 2 white-fronted geese, or (2) 2 Canada geese, or (3) 1 of each. In that portion of North Dakota lying east of State Highway 3 the daily bag limit may not include more than 1 Ross's goose and in the alternative more than: (1) 1 Canada goose, or (2) 1 Canada goose and 1 white-fronted goose, or (3) 2 white-fronted geese.

In that portion of South Dakota lying east of U. S. Highway 281 and north of U. S. Highway 14, and in Alfalfa, Bryan and Marshall Counties, Oklahoma, the daily bag limit may not include more than 1 Ross's goose, and 1 Canada goose and 1 white-fronted goose.

In that portion of Texas lying east of U. S. Highway 83 the daily bag limit may not include more than 1 Ross's goose and in the alternative not more than (1) 1 Canada goose or (2) 1 white-fronted goose.

No open season is prescribed for the taking of geese in portions of Conejos, Alamosa, Rio Grande, and Mineral Counties of Colorado (as described by Colorado).

An open season of 60 consecutive days on little brown cranes with a daily limit of 2 and possession limit of 4 is prescribed from November 4, 1967, through January 2, 1968, in the New Mexico Counties of Chaves, Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Lea, Quay, and Roosevelt, and in that portion of Texas lying west of a line from the International Toll Bridge at Del Rio, Val Verde County; thence northward following U. S. Highway 277 to its junction with U. S. Highway 87 at San Angelo, Tom Green County; thence northwesterly following U. S. Highway 87 to the junction with U. S. Highway 287 at Dumas, Moore County; thence northwesterly following U. S. Highway 287 to the point of intersection with the Texas-Oklahoma State line in Dallam County.

An open season of 30 consecutive days on little brown cranes with a daily limit of 2 and possession limit of 4 is prescribed from October 1 through October 30, 1967, in the Central Flyway portion of Colorado, except in the San Luis Valley Area.

PACIFIC FLYWAY

(Ariz., Calif., Ida., Nev., Ore., Utah, Wash., west of the Continental Divide in Colo., N.M., and Wyo., and designated Counties in Mont.)

States in this Flyway (except in the Columbia Basin Area of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho) may, between October 7, 1967, and January 7, 1968, select concurrent open seasons on ducks, coots, and gallinules of:

(a) 90 consecutive days or a split season totaling 81 days with basic limits on ducks of 5 daily and 10 in possession; or a daily bag and possession limit of 6 ducks; OR (b) 75 consecutive days or a split season totaling 68 days with basic limits on ducks of 6 daily and 12 in possession; or a daily bag and possession limit of 7 ducks.

The bag and possession limits on ducks may not include more than 2 canvasbacks.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

The daily bag and possession limit on coots and gallinules is 25 in the aggregate.

Those portions of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico placed in the Pacific Flyway may select open seasons for waterfowl, coots, and gallinules in accordance with frameworks prescribed for the Pacific Flyway.

In the Columbia Basin Areas of Washington, Oregon, and Idaho (same areas as last year plus Shoshone County, Idaho), those States may select concurrent open seasons for ducks, coots, and gallinules of 100 consecutive days between October 7, 1967, and January 21, 1968, with basic limits on ducks of 6 daily and 12 in possession. In this area the daily shooting hours for ducks, coots, and gallinules are from 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset.

Between October 7, 1967, and January 14, 1968, States in this Flyway may select an open season on geese of 90 days with a basic daily bag and possession limit of 6.

In all States in the Flyway, the daily bag limit may not include more than 3 geese of the dark species; PROVIDED, That in the entire States of Arizona and Utah; in Clark County, Nevada; in the Idaho Counties of Bear Lake, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, Bingham, Power, Bannock, Oneida, and Franklin; and the Oregon Counties of Benton, Lane, Lynn, Marion, Polk, and Yamhill; and in those portions of the States of Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico placed in the Pacific Flyway, the daily bag and possession limit may not include more than 2 Canada geese. In that portion of California Fish and Game District No. 22 for which California selects

the open season, the open season for taking Canada geese will close on December 24, 1967, and the daily bag and possession limits may not include more than 1 Canada goose.

No open season on snow, blue, and Ross's geese is prescribed in the Idaho Counties of Clark, Madison, Fremont, and Teton; nor the Montana Counties of Beaverhead, Gallatin, and Madison.

In all States in the Flyway, the daily bag and possession limit may not include more than 1 Ross's goose.

In the States of Washington and Idaho, the daily bag limit is 3 geese and the possession limit is 6.

The boundaries of the Tule Lake Area and the Colorado River Area in California will remain the same as last year and seasons will coincide with the adjacent areas of Oregon and Arizona, respectively. The remainder of the State of California season will be open as selected under the appropriate option.

Between October 7, 1967, and January 7, 1968, States in this Flyway may select seasons on Wilson's snipe of 50 consecutive days with a daily bag limit of 8 and possession limit of 16.

Between October 7, 1967, and February 18, 1968, States in this Flyway may select seasons on brant of 93 consecutive days with daily bag limit of 4 and possession limit of 8.

In the State of Utah an open season for taking a limited number of whistling swans under special permit is prescribed with the following conditions: (a) the season will run concurrently with the season for ducks; (b) not more than 1,000 permits will be issued authorizing the permittee to take 1 whistling swan; (c) permit forms and correspondingly numbered metal locking seals will be furnished by the Bureau and issued by the Utah Department of Game and Fish without charge on an equitable basis.